

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01519 311743Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, GE, UR

SUBJECT: DECISION TO ESTABLISH FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN
WEST BERLIN PROTESTED

REF: BERLIN 1492

1. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ AND SPOKESMEN FOR BERLIN
CDU AND FDP HAVE PUBLICLY REJECTED AUGUST 30 PRAVDA
CRITICISM OF INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER'S DECISION TO
LOCATE FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN.
SUBSTANCE OF PRAVDA ARTICLE, ENTITLED "STRANGE
POSITION," WAS THAT THIS DECISION "COMPLICATES THE
PROBLEM OF NORMALIZING THE SITUATION OF WEST BERLIN
AND OF ASSURING ITS VIABILITY ON THE BASIS OF THE
QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT." (BELETSKIY'S INFORMAL
COMPLAINT TO POLAD, PARA 3 REFTL, HAS THUS BEEN
SWIFTLY REFLECTED IN PUBLIC SOVIET STANCE.)

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01519 311743Z

2. GOVERNING MAYOR WAS PARTICULARLY VIGOROUS IN

REJECTING PRAVDA CRITICISM, TERMING IT "AS ABSURD AS IT IS UNFOUNDED." ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERAL OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN WAS, HE ASSERTED, IN COMPLETE CONFORMITY WITH PROVISIONS OF QA. REMARKING THAT FULL OBSERVANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF QA COULD BE CONSIDERED "STRANGE" ONLY TO THOSE UNFAMILIAR WITH AGREEMENT, GOVERNING MAYOR SARCASTICALLY OFFERED TO PROVIDE EDITORS OF PRAVDA WITH RUSSIAN LANGUAGE VERSION OF TEXT. ON BEHALF OF CDU, FRAKTION CHAIRMAN LUMMER DECLARED THAT PROVDA STATEMENT COULD BE VIEWED ONLY AS POART OF SYSTEMATIC CAPAIGN TO WEAKEN BASES FOR EXISTENCE OF WEST BERLIN. PROPER ANSWER, HE MAINTAINED, WAS NOT MERELY TO REJECT SUCH CRITICISIMS BUT TO PURSUE "UNFLINCHINGLY" FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF WEST BERLIN TIES TO FRG. IN BRIEFER STATEMENT, FDP SPOKESMAN ASSERTED THAT REPROACHES OF PRAVDA WERE WITH-OUT FOUNDATION AND THAT DECISION OF FRG WAS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH QA PROVISIONS.

3. AUGUST 31 NEUES DEUTSCHLAND REPRINTED PROVDA ARTICLE AND ADDED OWN COMMENTARY ENTITLED "POLITICAL ENVIORNMENTAL POLLUTION." WITH CUSTOMARY RESORT TO QA PROVISION THAT WEST BERLIN NOT A CONSTITUTENT PART OF FRG, ND DECLARED THAT INTERIOR MINISTER IN BONN HAS NO COMPETENCE IN WEST BERLIN AND CANNOT LOCATE OFFICES THERE. FRG DECISION WAS ALSO CHARACTERIZED AS "ABSURD" ON PRACTICAL GROUNDS, SINCE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WOULD BE SEPARATED FROM AREA IT WAS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT BY TERRITORY OF GDR. ND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WAS IMPORTANT QUESTION FOR WEST BERLIN, BUT MAINTAINED THAT THIS SHOULD BE HANDLED BY SENAT ALONE OR IN DIRECT COOPERATION WITH ITS "ENVIRONMENT" - THE GDR. (A PROBABLE REFERENCE TO GDR EFFORTS TO INITIATE DIRECT WATER CONSERVATION TALKS WITH SENAT.) CITING GENSCHER'S OWN WORDS,AND UNDERScoreD PURELY POLITICAL NATURE OF DECISION TAKEN IN CONTRADICTION TO OPINIONS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS. IN CONCLUSION, GENSCHER'S CONDUCT WAS DECLARED TO BE "GROSS" VIOLATION OF QA THAT COULD NOT BUT HAVE AS GOAL TO DISRUPT NORMALIZATION OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BERLIN 01519 311743Z

RELATION AND TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES.

4. BY WAY OF INTERESTING FOOTNOTE, ACTION OF "WESTERN OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES" IN DENYING SENAT'S (SIC) REQUEST FOR CREATION OF WEST BERLIN CONSTITUTIONAL COURT WAS CITED IN SUPPORT OF GDR INTERPRETATION OF QA PROVISION THAT WEST BERLIN NOT A CONSTITUENT PART OF FRG.KLEIN

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